A WORD TO THE PEOPLE OF THE WORLD,

Who hates the Light, to be witneſſed by the Light in them all; Wherein is ſhewed unto them, what the light is, which is the Condemnation of the World with its deeds, & what the Spirit of Truth is, & what it leads them into, who are led by it; and what the Spirit of Error is, and what it leads them into, who are lead by it; & alſo they are here exhorted to repent whileſt they have the light, to believe & walk in the light, leſt darkneſs come upon them, & they into it be caſt, where there ſhall be weeping and gnaſhing of teeth. Alſo a few Queries *to ſuch Profeſſor as ſtumbles at the Light, the Word, the Kingdom, & Spirit of God within, and tell People that none can be free from ſin in this life, and yet ſay that they own the Scriptures.*

LIght is come into the World, and the World hates it, *Joh* 8.12. and the whole World lieth in wickedneſs, 1 *Joh.* 5. 19. and this is the Condemnation of the World, that Light is come into the World, and men love the darkneſs rather then the light, becauſe their deeds are evil (ſaith Chriſt) *Joh.* 3. 19, 20. and every one that doth evil hateth the Light, neither cometh he to the light leaſt his deeds ſhould be reproved; for all things that are reproved are made manifeſt by the light, for whatſoever doth make manifeſt, the ſame is light, *Epheſ.* 5. 13. and Chriſt Jeſus he is the true light, wch lighteth every man that cometh into the World, *John* 1. 9. Drunkard, thou haſt a light given thee which comes from Chriſt, and that is the light which lets thee ſee that thou ſhould not be drunk; ſo here thou haſt learned thy Condemnation (which is the light) Swearer, and lyar, and fighter, and quarreler, thou haſt a light given thee which comes from Chriſt (who ſaith, Swear not at all) and with this light, thou ſeeſt thou ſhouldeſt not ſwear, nor lye, nor fight, nor quarrel, for the light in thee witneſſeth againſt theſe things; ſo here thou haſt learned thy condemnation (the light) ſcoffer, and ſcorner, and mocker, and railer, and curſed ſpeaker, and fooliſh jeaſter, and vain talker, and cuzener, and cheater, the light that ſhines in thy Conſcience, though thou cannot comprehend it (*Joh.* 1. 5) becauſe thou art darkneſſe, it is pure and eternal, and never conſented unto evil, but ſtood and ſtands a witneſſe for God, againſt all evil; (Mark) this light, this pure witneſs oftentimes hath appeared and doth appear unto thee, and in thee, and lets thee plainly ſee that thou ſhouldſt not act any of theſe evils before-mentioned, and it often checks & reproves in ſecret, when thou doſt ſo

act, so here thou hast learned what Condemns thee (which is the light) *Eph.*5.5,13. proud one, wanton one, lustful one, covetous one (who art an Idolater) and back-biter, and whoremonger, and gamer, and sporter, and prophane one, who walkest on in Lasciviousnesse, and excesse of the Creatures, in Revellings, Banquetings, and abominable Idolatries, and whoever thou be that acts any manner of unrighteousnesse whatsoever, it is sin, and it is of the Devil; but the light that lighteth every man that cometh into the World, that is the Son of God, who is made manifest for this very end, that he might destroy the works of the Devil, 1 *Joh.*3.8. and he (mark) the Son of God, hath given thee a measure of his light, and that is the measure of his light in thee, which lets thee see that thou shouldst not act any of these abominations before-mentioned, but it oft appears in thee to convince thee of thy evil deeds, and reproves thee, and Judgeth thee for thy wickednesse; so here thou hast learned thy Condemnation, which is the light, which makes manifest unto thee thy abominations.

And thou who makes a Profession of the Saints words, but art found to be out of their life, and in thy dark carnal mind and imaginations runs into their words (the Scriptures) and calls them the Word of God, and thy rule, and the way to know God (and yet thou livest contrary to the Scriptures, and art out of the knowledge of God, whom to know is life eternal) Mark, the light wherewith thou art inlightned withal, it comes from Christ (who lighteth every man that cometh into the World, and his Name is called the Word of God, *Revelations* 19. 13. and he is the Way to God, and no man knoweth the Father save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him) *Mat.* 11. 27. and this light which comes from the Son of God, oftentimes appears in thee, and shews thee that thou art out of the Saints life (though thou profess their Words) and the light lets thee see that thou art a Thief and a Robber, and art climbing up another Way (in thy imaginations) then by the Door, (*Joh.* 10.1.) which is Christ (from whence the light doth come) and this light in thee which makes manifest to thee thy condition, it oftentimes confounds thee and thy imaginations (which thou hast raised out of thy dark mind, concerning the Scriptures, which were given forth in the true light) and the light oftentimes convinceth, reproveth and Judgeth thee of, and for thy hypocrisie, and dissimulation, and feigned love, and humility, and will-worship, and lets thee see that thy worship is not that worship which the Lord requireth, for that is in the Spirit, and in the Truth which God requireth, *John* 4. 22, 23, 24. and thou being out of the light (not being guided by it) art out of the Spirit, for the Spirit is light, and the light is the Truth, and so out of the true worship in the false, worshipping thou knowst not what; so here with the true light thou art Condemned, and so hast learned but thy Condemnation.

*Eph.*5 13. 1 *Cor.* 12. 7. Therefore all people, both young and old, high and low, rich and poor, bond and free, who yet lives in any of these evil deeds before-mentioned; mind that which makes manifest your evil deeds unto you, which is the measure of the pure God, which he hath given you to profit withal, and this measure in you convinceth you of sin, and reproves you for it; now mind to stand in that which doth convince, for that is the power, and as you stand and believe in that which doth convince you, it will lead you into true Repentance never to be repented of, 2 *Cor.*7.10. for it will bring you to repent of, and to forsake all your evil deeds and hard speeches (*Jud.* 15.) which you will see in the light (which never consented unto sin) that you have acted

and

and spoken against the Living God, so believe in the light which shews you sin and evil; and wait in the light as it ariseth and appears in you, to shew you your estates and conditions; now if you believe in the light, and wait in it, you will come to receive power from Christ (from whence the light doth come) to overcome evil, and to withstand the Tempter, when he appears to tempt you to evil, and the light (believing in it) will preserve you out of the evil, and lead you out of the death and losse that ye are in, unto Christ the life and Saviour of the Soul. *Joh.* 1. 12.

But if you hate the Light (which shews you sin and evil) you hate Christ, for I am the Light saith Christ, *John* 8. 12. and if you hate the light, you hate the way to the Father, for I am the way to the Father saith Christ who is the light, *Joh.* 14. 6. and if you hate the light, you hate the Truth, and you hate the Life, for I am the Truth and the Life saith Christ the true Light, who lighteth every man that cometh into the World, *John* 1. 9. and 12. 46. and if you hate the light, you hate the Covenant of God, for I will give him for a Covenant to the People, and for a Light to the Gentiles saith God, *Isa* 42. 6. and 49. 6. and if you hate the light you hate the power, for all power is given unto me both in heaven and in earth, saith Christ the light, *Mat.* 28. 18. and if you hate the light you hate the Word of God, and so you hate God and Christ (who are One, *John* 10. 30) Mark, for in the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God, all things were made by it, and without it nothing was made that was made, in it was Life, (Mark, in the Word was life) and the life (of the Word) was the light of men; and *John* a man sent of God bare witnesse of the light, that all men through him might believe (Mark) through him, who lighteth every man that cometh into the world, *John* 1. 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9. and God is light, 1 *Joh.* 1. 5. and God and Christ are One, *Joh* 10. 30. 1 *Joh.* 5. 7.

So you that be turned from the Light (which shews you sin and evil, mark what you are turned from) you are turned from the way, and from the truth, and from the Life, and from the Covenant of God, and from the Power of God, and from the Word of God, and so from God and Christ, from whence the light doth come, and into the Darkness you are turned and gone, and the Prince of Darkness ruleth in you (*Eph.* 2. 2.) that so you cannot find any power over your own perverse Wills, nor over your Lusts, nor over any Sin there, being gone from the light in your own particulars, in which light if you believed and waited in it, you would receive power to overcome sin, but you not believing in the light, you believe in him who leads you from the Power of God into sin, and there he perswades you that you must live (in sin) so long as you live upon the earth, and you have believed and received this Doctrine of him, and you teach it to others, and so are become the Devils Ministers, and so you deny the end for which the Son of God was made manifest, which was to destroy the works of the Devil, and to take away sin, 1 *Joh.* 3. 8. *Mat.* 1. 21. and yet many of you feed your selves with hopes of Life and Salvation, but your hopes are vain and will perish; be not deceived, God will not be mocked, for such as you sow, such shall you reap, *Gal.* 6. 7, 8. Ye that live after the flesh fulfilling the lusts thereof, you shall surely die (if you repent not speedily) *Rom.* 8. 13. and you that sow to the flesh, shall of the flesh reap Corruption; The day of the Lord hasteth greatly, wherein you must give an account unto him, who will Judge you righteously, and reward you according to your deeds done in the body; and all you who have been slothful, and have hid that in the Earth which the Lord gave you to

profit withal, you will be turned into utter Darkneſſe, *Matth.* 25.30. *John* 12.35. Therefore whiles you have the Light, believe, and walk in it, leſt thick darkneſs comes upon you, even ſuch darkneſs as may be felt, the day of your Viſitation prize, leſt the things that belongs to your peace be wholly hid from your eyes; Conſider there is a time when the Candle is lighted, and when you may ſee (if you ſearch with it) what is in the houſe; but mark, this time will not alwayes continue with the Wicked, for the Candle of the Wicked ſhall be put out, *Prov.* 24.20. Yea, the Spirit of the Lord ſhall not alwayes ſtrive with man, *Gen* 6.3. Therefore ceaſe from your dark imaginations, which ſeveral of you have got into, for whoſoever followeth the immaginations and thoughts of his own heart (which all who believe not in the light do) they run on in darkneſs and knows not whether they go, and ſuch are under the wo, putting darkneſs for light and light for darkneſs, calling the Spirit of Truth the Spirit of Errour, and the ſpirit of Errour the ſpirit of Truth, as all the world do, who lyeth in wickedneſſe and hateth the true light which lighteth every man that cometh into the world, which light reproveth you for your wickedneſſe, and this light you call a ſpirit of Deluſion an Errour, and you ſay, that thoſe who are guided by it, are deluded and led into Errour; Oh! take heed of blaſphemy againſt the pure God, who is Light, Mark, the Spirit of Errour, what it is, and what it leads into, it is that which abode not in the truth [and the light is the truth] and it is a murderer, and was ſo from the beginning, and they who walk not in the true light, they walk and are guided by this ſpirit, and ſome by it are led to murther, ſome to ſteal, ſome to be drunk, to ſwear, to lye, to cheat and cozen one another, to fight, to game, and ſome it leads into vain laughter, fooliſh jeaſting, corrupt communication, curſed ſpeaking, wantonneſſe, luſt, whoredom, fornication, and into covetouſneſſe [which is Idolatry] into pride, variance, ſtrife, railing, back-biting, envy, wrath and malice, falſe accuſing the innocent, and into all manner of ungodlineſſe, into feigned love, ſelf ſeeking, diſſimulation, hypocriſie and feigned flattery, and to hate the very appearance of Truth; Now examine with that which reproves you for ſin in ſecret, and it will let you ſee that you bring forth many of theſe curſed Fruits before mentioned, and ſo are deluded and guided by the ſpirit of Errour; now the true light [which lighteth every man that cometh into the world] comes from the Spirit of truth, and that is the truth, and it witneſſeth againſt all theſe evil deeds before-mentioned [which are out of the Truth] and they who believe in the light [which makes manifeſt ſin and evil] and wait in it, they receive power from him from whence the Light came, to abſtain from evil, and to overcome ſin and evil [and this I witneſs] and that ſpirit which tempts the creature to evil is the ſpirit of Errour; So we who believe in the true light, which is the manifeſtation of the Spirit of truth, which is given to every man to profit withal, *1 Cor.* 12.7. we by it are led out of Errour and Deluſion, into the perfect truth of God, and to act thoſe things which are well-pleaſing in his ſight, they being learned and wrought in the light which comes from the Son, in whom the Father is well pleaſed; and this true Light in us is our Guide and Teacher, and this brings us who wait in it, to underſtand the Scriptures of Truth, which was given forth from the Spirit of Truth, and it brings us into that which the Scriptures ſpeaks of, into the life and power of God, and to witneſſe that which the world talks of, for they will talk of Faith in Chriſt Jeſus, though they witneſſe not what they ſpeak; but we who believe in the light,

Iſa 5.20.

Eph 4.29. and 5.5. *Gal.* 5.19, 20.

Joh 1.12.

Mat. 11.29. *Joh* 3.21.

are

are made (by the power of God) children of the light, and we witness faith in Christ, which faith purifies our hearts, & gives us victory over the world, *Act.* 15. 9. 1 *Joh.* 5. 4. & the light leads us into meekness, into soberness & love unfeigned, into holiness & uprightness, into sound & pure Judgment, into mercy, into patience, when we are reviled & persecuted (& at all times) into long suffering and truth in the inward parts, to do unto all men as we would they should do unto us; yea, it leads us who abide in it, into all truth, *Joh.* 16. 13. & this is not of our selves, for it is the free gift of God, who freely gave his Son for a Covenant of light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world; and we who have received the gift of God (the light) by the gift we are brought to bring forth these fruits, which are contrary to those which the Spirit of Errour leads the Children of disobedience to bring forth; so although we the Children of Light, are accounted to be in Delusion and Errour, yet it is but by you who bring forth the Cursed fruits, which the Spirit of Errour leads you to bring forth; so in the light, life and power of God we stand over all false Accusations and Reproaches, and Persecutions, and in the patience of Gods Lamb we bear them all, and our love goes forth to your Souls, who wilfully oppose your selves, and we declare unto you that the long sufferings of the Lord towards you, is to draw you to Repentance, *Rom.* 2. 4. and I have directed you to that which will show you, what you ought to repent of. *Gal.* 5. 22, 23.

Therefore consider your wayes speedily all you that forget God, lest he tear you in pieces, and there be none to deliver you, *Psal.* 50. 22. for verily, this I declare unto you in the presence of the Lord, that if you go on and continue in stubbornness & rebellion against the pure God, & despise his love, & reject his councel, and still refuse to hearken to the light of his Son in your Consciences (which reproves you for sin, & is freely given to you, to lead you out of sin unto God, if you wilfully did not resist it) Mark, when the measure of your iniquity is filled up, then will he arise upon you at unawars in his fury & wrath & indignation, & his eye shall not at all pity you, but he will bring his plagues & righteous Judgments upon you, which shall consume you both root & branch, if you will not be gathered in the day of his long patience and forbearance, which is the day of your visitation, wherein you may come to know the things belonging to your peace, if you do not wilfully resist the power that is offered & committed unto you; But if you resist the power, then the Lords righteous Judgments will assuredly come upon you, and you will receive to your selves condemnation, and if you continue in your wickedness until the day of your visitation be past, then shall the light in all your Consciences (which hath oftentimes shewed unto you your evil deeds) arise & witness to the Judgments of God that they are just; so whether you will hear or forbear, Remember you are warned in your life time, *Matth.* 24. 50, 51. *Ezek.* 2. 7.

By a Friend to your Souls, and a Lover of the Creation of God,
GEORGE FOX, the younger.

A few Queries *to such Professors as stumbles at the Light, the Word, the Kingdom and Spirit of God within, and tell People that none can be free from sin in this life, and yet say that they own the Scriptures.*

1, *Query* ARE not all by nature Darkness, and doth not the Light shine in Darkness, yea or nay?

2. *Qu.* Can

2. *Qu.* Can any come to see themselves to be darkness, but with the light which shineth in the darkness, yea or nay?

3. *Qu.* Is there any way to come out of darkness and death, and to receive life, and to be made Children of the light, but by believing in and following of Jesus Christ the true Light (which lighteth every man that cometh into the world) yea or nay?

4. *Qu.* Must not all be turned from darkness to light, and from Satans power to the power of God, before they can receive remission of sins, and an inheritance among them that are sanctified, yea or nay?

5. *Qu.* Can any come into the true Faith (which purifies the heart, and gives victory over the world, without which none can please God) but by hearing the Word of God, yea or nay?

6. *Qu.* And is not Christ the light, the Word of God, and is not Christ the light, the Author and Finisher of the true Faith (which saves and justifies) yea or nay?

7. *Qu.* And is not the Word nigh in the Mouth and in the Heart, that men may obey it and do it, and is not Christ the Light, the Word, that Prophet, which all that hears him not are to be cut off, yea or nay?

8. *Qu.* And is it not Christ the Word which discerns and reveals the thoughts and intents of the heart, and is not he the ingrafted Word which is able to save the Soul, and is not he the Grace of God which bringeth Salvation and is sufficient (which hath appeared unto all men) and is not he the Word of Gods Grace (which is able to build up and keep from falling) which people are to be commended unto, yea or nay?

9. *Qu.* And is not God light, and is it not the shining of him in the hearts of people which gives them the knowledge of himself in the face of Jesus Christ, yea or nay?

10. *Qu.* And is not Christ the Light, the hope which purifies as God is pure (which Anchors and stayes the Soul) to be known within, and are not people tossed like a Ship (in a tempest) without an Anchor, till Christ the Hope be felt within, to stay and anchor them, and is not Christ within the Hope, a Mystery which hath been hid from Ages and Generations, and are not all they in the reprobate state, who knows not Christ within them, yea or nay?

11. *Qu.* And is not Gods Kingdom Light, and is it not like a little leaven that is hid in Meal, and as a grain of Mustard-seed that is sown in the earth, and like a Pearl hid in the field, or like good Seed sowen in the field, both on stony, thorny, high-way, and good ground, and is not the world the field, where the Seed of the Kingdom is sowen, and is not the world in mans heart; so, is not Gods Kingdom within men, yea or nay?

12. *Qu.* And is not the manifestation of the Spirit given to every man to profit withal, and doth any worship the Father of Truth aright, but those that worship him in the Spirit and in the Truth, and is not the Light the Truth, yea or nay?

13. *Qu.* And is not Christ the Light, that Word which reconciles to God, and is it not he that must open the understandings of men, before they can understand the Scriptures, and are not people in errour, and in jangling and strife about the Scriptures, till Christ the Light, the Spirit of Truth, the power of God (from whence Scriptures were spoken) be known and owned to guide and lead them, yea or nay?

14. *Qu.* And is not this the Cause of so many Sects and Opinions, and Devisions as are, and of such striving as is about Scriptures and Religions, because

people

people know not, or own not the Spirit of truth (from whence Scriptures were ſpoken forth) to lead and guide them, and is it not like that people ſhould run into Sects, and Opinions, and Diviſions and Strife, if they know not, or own not the Spirit of Truth to guide and lead them; and if the Spirit of truth were known and owned to guide and lead them, would it not lead and guide them out of Sects and Opinions, and Diviſions and Strife, and would it not bring people to be of one heart, and of one mind, and into unity with God, and one with another, and with the Scriptures, yea or nay?

15. *Qu.* And doth not Chriſt the Light, the Spirit of Truth, for ſin, Condemn ſin in the fleſh, and muſt not that be owned which makes manifeſt, reproves and condemns ſin in the fleſh, before the miniſtration of life and peace can be witneſſed, yea or nay?

16. *Qu.* Is not the Unity of the Spirit the bond of Peace, and muſt not people come into unity with the Spirit, before they can come into true peace, and doth not the Spirit of Truth reprove men for ſin who live in it; ſo muſt not people come out of ſin, before they can come into unity with the Spirit, and ſo into true peace, or hath the Spirit any unity with ſin, or is there any true peace to the wicked, who live in ſin, yea or nay?

17. *Qu.* And is not Chriſt the Light, the Word, the Rock of offence, and the ſtone of ſtumbling unto the diſobedient, in whom the Prince of the power of the Air ruleth; but is he not elect and pretious to them that believe and obey him, and is it not he that ruleth in them, and leads and guids them in the way of peace, yea or nay?

18. *Qu.* Doth not as many as believe in the light receive power to become the ſons of God, and are not thoſe the ſons of God who are led by the Spirit of Truth, and are not thoſe that doth not believe in Chriſt the Light, nor are guided by the Spirit, baſtards and not ſons, and are they not condemned already, who doth not believe, and is not the light their condemnation, yea or nay?

19. *Qu.* And ſhall not darkneſs (yea, great darkneſs) come upon them, who doth not believe and walk in the Light, and ſhall not they ſtumble and fall, and be broken, yea or nay?

20. *Qu.* And ſhall not they who believe and walk in the light, be made Children of the light, and be kept from ſtumbling and falling, and ſhall not they have fellowſhip with the Father and the Son (from whence the light comes) and one with another, and doth not the bloud of Chriſt cleanſe them from all ſin, yea or nay?

21. *Qu.* Can any have fellowſhip with the Father and the Son and the Saints in light, but thoſe that walk in (and are guided and led by) the light of Chriſt Jeſus, which he hath enlightned them withal, yea or nay?

22. *Qu.* Can any deny themſelves before they ſee themſelves, and can any man ſee himſelf but with the light which Chriſt hath enlightned him withal, which makes manifeſt Self, and can any be Chriſts Diſciple, but he that denies himſelf, and take up the Croſſe, and come after Chriſt the true light; and are not all they thieves and robbers which comes before Chriſt the light, and are not ſuch enemies to the Croſs of Chriſt, and is not the Croſſe of Chriſt the power of God, and is not the Croſſe (and the preaching of it) fooliſhneſs to the wiſe of this World, and is it not a ſtumbling block to ſuch as in words profeſſe they know God, but in works deny him, yea or nay?

23. *Qu.* And they that commit ſin, and cannot ceaſe from ſin, are not they of the Devil, and are not they the Servants of ſin, and ſo free from Rigeteouſneſſe, and have they not eyes full of Adultery who cannot ceaſe from ſin, are

they

they not adulterated and whored from the life of God, and though they promise liberty to themselves and others, yet are not they servants to corruption, and do not they live in the flesh, and are they not dead whiles they live, and so out of the true Faith, and can such please God, ye or nay?

24. *Qu.* And they that believe in, and obey Christ Jesus the true light, doth not their faith stand in the power of God, and doth it not purifie their hearts, and give them victory over the world, and doth not they who witnesse (in the life) the manifestation of the Son of God, also witnesse that he destroyes the works of the Devil, and takes away their sin, and makes an end of transgression, and changes their nature which was subject to sin, and makes them partakers of his divine Nature, and throughly purges and sanctifies them with his living truth, and doth not that make them free from sin, and so makes them servants of righteousnesse, and doth not that make vessels of honour fitted for the Masters use, and are not such dead unto sin and alive unto God, and can such live any longer in sin, and having mortified the deeds of the body through the Spirit, shall not they live (but not to themselves, but to God) and are not these Christs, and have they not crucified the flesh with the affections & lusts thereof, yea or nay?

25. *Qu.* Shall any man see the Lord without holiness, and ought any to name the Name of Christ, but those that depart from iniquity, and is that the faith of Gods Elect which doth not purifie the heart, nor give victory over the world (but is without the works) or is not this dead faith, and but the faith of Devils, and shall any be saved or justified by this faith, yea or nay?

Consider of these things ye Professors who stumble at the Light, and tells people that none shall be free from sin in this life.

26. *Qu.* And when is the time, and where is the place, and what is the name of it (if not in this life) that men shall be made free from sin, (answer plainly, that I may see how much ye differ from the Papist in this particular) or do ye believe that corruption (and that which is imperfect) shall enter into heaven, and inherit incorruption, yea or nay?

Answer these *Queries* in plainnesse according to the Scriptures (if ye be able) if not, then submit unto the true Light, which will let you see your thoughts, your darkness, your unstableness, and ignorance of the Scriptures, and repent and believe, and wait in the true light, that you may come out of your thoughts and darkness, and unstableness and ignorance, into that which the Scriptures declares of, to feel Christ the Saviour (from whence the light doth come) to redeem and save ye from sin, and to keep ye out of your own thoughts, inventions and imaginations, that so your minds may come to be stayed and setled in the power of the Lord, which moves against sin.

By one who witnesseth God, Christ, the Light, the Word, the Spirit of Truth (& these are one) & the kingdom of God within me, and so am come to the thing that the Scriptures testifie of, which was before Scripture was, in whom the Scriptures ends, & the Tabernacle of God is witnessed with men, & his presence is felt, which filleth Heaven and Earth, & the Heaven of Heavens cannot contain him, Glory to him in the Highest. GEORGE FOX, the younger.

THE END.

London, Printed for *Thomas Simmons*, at the Sign of the *Bull* and *Mouth*, near *Aldersgate*, 1660.